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Community E-lert®

DATE: April 6, 2006
TO: Community E-lert Recipients
FROM: Jeffrey Chen, Chief of Police
SUBJECT: Community E-lert #06-006

Community E-lert® is a registered trademark of the City of Medina Police Department. This announcement is provided as a public service to residents of Medina and Hunts Point. It is our intention to distribute these E-lerts following an occurrence or condition that may have public safety or community well-being implications. E-lerts are also available via fax for those residents without access to email.

RECENT ACTIVITY

DISTURBING ENCOUNTER

On Wednesday April 5th at approximately 1:45 PM, the reporting party was walking her two dogs on the Points Loop Trail in Hunts Point when she saw a man standing on the side of the trail with a baby buggy. As she approached, the man appeared to be uncomfortable with her presence, possibly because of her dogs. He stared intently in the other direction and pulled something out of his pocket which she could not identify. When she was near enough to pass his location he stepped toward her, unsheathed a 4" knife, and yelled, "Keep back!". She quickly continued along the trail with her dogs and noticed him looking back in her direction as she walked away.

The suspect is described as a white male in his 40's with dark hair. He was reportedly wearing light colored pants, a blue vest, and was pushing a black buggy. It is unknown whether there was a child inside.

The Medina Police Department will be conducting emphasis patrols in the area. If you have any information regarding this incident, please call 425-233-6420.

VEHICLE PROWLs

Between 10:00 PM on Wednesday April 5th and 7:00 AM on Thursday April 6th, unknown person(s) prowled three vehicles on 77th Avenue N.E.

The first reported incident occurred in the 1800 block of 77th Avenue N.E. The suspect(s) entered an unlocked SUV parked in the driveway and ransacked the glovebox and center console. No items appear to have been removed from the vehicle.

The second reported incident occurred in the 1600 block of 77th Avenue N.E. The suspect(s) entered an unlocked minivan parked in the driveway with the front windows rolled down. The suspect(s) ransacked the glovebox and center console, but the only items believed to have been removed are two videotapes.

The third reported prowler occurred in the 2000 block of 77th Avenue N.E. In this incident, the suspect(s) entered an unlocked SUV which was parked in the driveway with the keys in the ignition. It appears the suspect(s) may have considered stealing the vehicle, which contained several thousand dollars of electronic equipment, but instead unloaded some of the equipment and attempted to hide it in nearby bushes, presumably to retrieve it at a later time. The owners are conducting an inventory and have yet to determine whether the suspect(s) were successful in hauling away any of the items.

Medina Officers have processed these scenes and recovered evidence and fingerprints which will be submitted for forensic examination through the Washington State Patrol Crime Lab in hopes of identifying the suspect(s).

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

- There are simple steps you can take to reduce your vehicle's chance of being prowled. Most importantly, lock your vehicle when it is unattended and activate the alarm if your vehicle is equipped with a security system. Be sure to remove items of value, and whenever possible, park inside a secured garage.
- Report suspicious persons or activity immediately by calling 911. An Officer will gladly respond and investigate, day or night.

If you have questions about this information, please call the Medina Police Department at 425-233-6420.